

REMARKS

Summary of Claim Status

Claims 1-31 are pending in the present application after entry of the present amendment. Claims 1-14 and 23 are rejected for the reasons discussed below.

Applicant acknowledges the statements that Claims 1-13 are allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph and the double patenting rejection, and that Claims 14-21 are allowable after the double patenting rejection is overcome. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this acknowledgement of patentable subject matter.

Applicant requests the favorable reconsideration of the claims and withdrawal of the pending rejections and objections, in view of the present amendment and in light of the following remarks.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112

Claims 1-13 are rejected as being indefinite under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended Claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, this rejection is overcome with respect to Claim 1. Claims 2-13 are rejected as indefinite due simply to their dependency from Claim 1. Therefore, this rejection is also overcome with respect to Claims 2-13.

Rejections for Double-Patenting

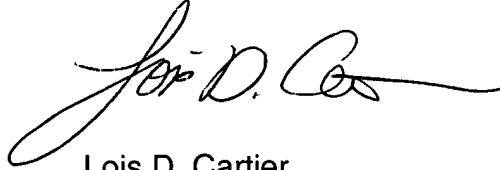
Claims 1-2, 7-12, 14, and 23 are provisionally rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over co-pending application serial number 10/618,329. In response, Applicant has enclosed herewith a terminal disclaimer for the present invention with respect to the cited application.

Conclusion

No new matter has been introduced by any of the above amendments. All claims should be now be in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If any action other than allowance is contemplated by the

Examiner, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's agent, Lois D. Cartier, at 720-652-3733.

Respectfully submitted,



Lois D. Cartier
Agent for Applicant
Reg. No. 40,941

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 7, 2004.

Pat Slaback
Name


Signature